From: Mark Venable

Subject: Opposed to Research Works Act, H.R. 3699

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To: publicaccess@ostp.gov

I am a professor doing research in the area of biofuels. I also teach students in Biology who are training for careers in biotechnology or medicine. Access to research information is critical as we try to move forward and solve problems. Publishers seems to be simply trying to make as much money as possible on the information dissemination process. This surprising considering the role they play. Scientists come up with the ideas for how to use science to make progress. Government agencies, corporations (not publishers) and private foundations pay for the research. Universities and corporations (not publishers) provide the space where the work is done. Researchers analyze and write up their work and submit it to publishers who send it out to others researchers to review the research and the text. When the article is accepted it goes back to the publisher, that runs it through programs to edit and format it and then send it back to the researchers to make sure they did not make any mistakes in the process. The publishers then put them together into a journal issue and in many cases charge the researchers page charges, etc to do so. I really do not think that this role publishers play affords them any special rights to the information. Publishers should facilitate not bog down research. Please do not support this legislation.

Thank you
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